

Message Text

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64

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INT-08 ACDA-19 PC-15

IGA-02 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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O 101630Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1602

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

JCS

SECDEF

CSAF

USCINCAFRED LANGLEY AFB VA

USCINCRED MACDILL AFB FLA

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE ALCC (EDARYN) RAMSTEIN AFB GER

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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AFDROUGHT

LONDON FOR BAAS

PARIS FOR HELMAN

ROME FOR FODAG

USEC FOR MARTIN

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OTTAWA FOR HIGGINS

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: AUTHENTIC ASSISTANCE-MAURITANIA

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 939

1. JTF COMMANDER HARP AND I HAD PRODUCTIVE MEETING WITH GIRM RELIEF COORDINATOR, MINHEALTH OULD BAH, EVENING OCT 9. AS RESULT, MINISTER HAS GIVEN US COPY OF TODAY'S TELEGRAM FROM GIRM FONMINISTRY INSTRUCTING MAURITANIAN CONGEN BAMAKO TO APPROACH GOM, REQUESTING USE ITS FACILITIES FOR MAURITANIAN AIRLIFT.

2. SPECIFICALLY, GIRM IS REQUESTING:

A. USE, FOR PERIOD OF APPROX 21 DAYS, OF ALL FACILITIES GOM HAS ACCORDED MALI AUTHENTIC ASSISTANCE OPERATION FOR AIRLIFT DEDICATED TO SUPPLYING NEMA.

B. 800 TONS GRAIN, TO BE BORROWED FROM GOM STOCKS AND SUBSEQUENTLY REPLACED FROM USG GRAIN SHIPMENTS EARMARKED MAURITANIA NOW ARRIVING DAKAR PORT.

3. CONGEN IS TO ASSURE GOM THAT GIRM PLEDGES SELF TO COVER ANY GOM COSTS OF MAURITANIAN AIRLIFT. (COMMENT. LACKING REPLY NOUAKCHOTT 939, I URGED MINHEALTH SIMPLY TO GUARANTEE GOM THAT GIRM WOULD TAKE IN HAND ALL EXPENSES RELATED TO MALIAN BASED AIRLIFT. SAID I HAD NO IDEA WHAT SUCH EXPENSES MIGHT ADD UP TO, BUT TIME WAS OF ESSENCE IF WE WERE TO PURSUE OPTION OPERATING FROM BAMAKO. HE AGREED ASSUME THIS OBLIGATION. I NONETHELESS HOPE THAT IF THESE CHARGES ARE SIGNIFICANT, WE WILL BE ABLE HELP DEFRAID THEM.)

4. JTF COMMANDER RETURNS BAMAKO AFTERNOON OCT 10 TO MAKE CONTACT ASAP WITH GIRM CONGEN AND ARRANGE MEETING WITH GOM MINDEFENSE DOUKARA. TOLD HARP I HOPED HE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN SUCH MEETING SO THAT ALL NECESSARY DETAILS CAN BE IRONED OUT ON SPOT IF DOUKARA PREPARED APPROVE OPERATION FOR MAURITANIA. TRUST THAT AT SAME TIME EMBASSY BAMAKO WILL BE AUTHORIZED GIVE NECESSARY ASSURANCES THAT USG WILL REPLACE TONNAGE SHIPPED FROM MALIAN STORES FOR MAURITANIA.
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5. COMMENT. HOPEFULLY WE ARE NOW OVER THE PROTOCOL HANGUPS. MALIANS UNDERSTANDABLY HAVE NOT WANTED DISCUSS PROSPECT THIS ASSISTANCE WITH US IN ABSENCE FORMAL MAURITANIAN REQUEST. FOR RECORD, WOULD NOTE IT HAS TAKEN SEVERAL SESSIONS WITH MIN HEALTH TO BRING HIM TO OVERCOME HIS HESITANCY AND ASK THIS FAVOR OF GOM; HE HAS BEEN HIGHLY RELUCTANT TO RISK EMBARRASSMENT OF MALIAN TURNDOWN. HARP'S PRESENTATION OF

HOW MUCH MORE EFFICIENT A RELIEF OPERATION WOULD BE USING
BAMAKO AS BEDDOWN INSTEAD OF DAKAR FINALLY CONVINCED MINISTER
TO ACT.

6. FOR OUR PART, IF GIRM REQUEST IS APPROVED, TRUST WE WILL
ARRANGE EXPEDITIOUS TRANSFER TO MALI FROM MAURITANIAN STOCKS
IN DAKAR OF QUANTITY GRAIN EQUAL TO THAT IT WILL LOAN GIRM.
REGRET EXTRA BOOKKEEPING THIS WILL PLACE ON EMBASSIES
BAMAKO AND DAKAR AS WELL AS AID/W. HOWEVER, OUR PARTICIPATION
IN MAURITANIAN AIRLIFT, IF BASED BAMAKO, OFFERS NOT ONLY MOST
ECONOMIC OVERALL OPERATION FOR USG, BUT WILL BRING MOST
RAPID POSSIBLE RELIEF TO EASTERN REGIONS OF MAURITANIA.

DECON 12/31/74
MURPHY

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